UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Vinci Brands LLC

Plaintiff and Counterclaim Defendant,

v.

Coach Services Inc., Kate Spade, LLC, Tapestry, Inc., and Case-Mate, Inc.,

Defendants,

and

Case-Mate, Inc.,

Counterclaimant,

v.

Vinci Brands LLC, Candlewood Partners, LLC, CWD Armor Management, LLC, Onward Brands, LLC, and ACS Group Acquisitions, LLC,

Counterclaim Defendants.

23-CV-5138 (LGS) (VF)

ORDER

VALERIE FIGUEREDO, United States Magistrate Judge.

On December 17, 2024, Vinci Brands LLC submitted a letter motion requesting that the Court issue letters rogatory to three Canadian entities. <u>See</u> ECF No. 669. Kate Spade, LLC, Tapestry, Inc. and Case-Mate, Inc. oppose the issuance of the letters rogatory. <u>See</u> ECF Nos. 672, 675. For the reasons discussed herein, Vinci's letter motion is **GRANTED**.

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 28(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 1781(b)(2), federal courts are authorized to issue letters rogatory, enabling a U.S. litigant to obtain non-party discovery from a foreign entity. <u>Lantheus Med. Imaging, Inc. v. Zurich Am. Ins. Co.</u>, 841 F. Supp. 2d 769, 776 (S.D.N.Y. 2012). "In considering the issuance of letters rogatory, U.S. courts apply the discovery principles contained in Rule 26." <u>Id.</u> "Courts routinely issue

[letters rogatory] where the movant makes a reasonable showing that the evidence sought

may be material or may lead to the discovery of material evidence." Netherby Ltd. v. Jones

Apparel Group, Inc., 2005 WL 1214345, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. May 18, 2005). Vinci has made

that showing here. The three Canadian entities all had a prior contractual and/or business

relationship with Vinci relating to the purchase of Kate Spade-branded merchandise, and

consequently information in their possession is relevant to Vinci's tortious interference

claims against Kate Spade and Case-Mate. See ECF No. 669 at 2-3. As requested by Kate

Spade and Case-Mate, however, the letters rogatory should be amended to include a request

for all communications with Onward, ACS Group Acquisition LLC, Sonny Haddad, and

Charles Tebele. See ECF No. 672 at 3. Accordingly, Vinci is directed to provide amended

letters rogatory to include requests seeking communications from the Canadian entities as

outlined herein. Vinci is further instructed that the amended letters rogatory should include a

signature block for the undersigned, as the letters rogatory submitted at ECF Nos. 669-2,

669-3, and 669-4 include signature blocks for Judge Schofield.

The Clerk of Court is respectfully directed to terminate the motion at ECF No. 669.

SO ORDERED.

DATED:

New York, New York December 30, 2024

VALERIÈ FIGUEREDO

United States Magistrate Judge

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